

El Pasoan of the Year for 1996. Jimmy has served El Paso with unmatched dedication and desire while asking for nothing in return.

Jimmy is the current Chairman of the Board of the American Heart Association and was the past Development Chairman and Outstanding Regional Volunteer of the Year for West Texas. He has served the Boy Scouts of America for more than 28 years and is the current Chairman of the Troop Committee of Troop 222.

Jimmy has been a member of the Highland Presbyterian Church for more than 35 years. He currently serves the church in his capacity as co-music leader for Sunday School and Chairman of the 40th Anniversary celebration. He currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Northgate Optimist Club. His involvement in the community includes service to Andress High School as the past President of the Band Booster Club. He is also a Life Member of the Texas Parent Teacher Association.

I would like to thank Jimmy Melver for his years of dedication and service to El Paso. We can all learn a great deal from Jimmy and the sacrifices he has made to improve his community. He is typical of what El Paso has become known for in the Southwest, individuals that work long, hard, and unselfish hours on behalf of this community for no other reason than to create a community where everyone can feel welcome. He shines as bright as the star on our mountain.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE IRVIN B.
BOOKER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Newark community on the occasion of his retirement after a long and distinguished judicial career, the Honorable Irvin B. Booker.

Judge Booker has contributed over two decades of service to our community. Appointed to the Newark Court in 1970, he served as presiding judge of the Newark Municipal Court from 1974 through 1980. He was then elevated by the Governor of the New Jersey to the position of Judge of the Essex County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. Most recently, he sat on the Superior Court of New Jersey, assigned to the Family Court part of Essex County.

Not only has Judge Booker gained great respect for his professional accomplishments, he has also won the admiration and gratitude of the community for his tireless volunteer work. Judge Booker, affectionately known as "Buddy" by his close friends, is noted for his vision and creative ideas to benefit the community. Always thinking of ways to improve the community or to stimulate citizens' awareness, he has been considered a fair, thoughtful and even-mannered judge. Judge Booker has increased the awareness of the judiciary by hosting an annual Black History Month program at the County Courts Building, which has continued to grow in size and stature.

He has been an active participant in the Celebrity Read Program for Newark Elementary School Students; an active supporter of Senior Citizens events for the James C. White Senior

Citizen Complex; an organizer of Education Encouragement Day for the city of Newark; an advisor and Pro Bono Incorporating Attorney for New Community Corporation, which meets numerous needs in our community; an organizing member of the First Crispus Attucks Day Parade; a Founder and Coordinator of the Life Experience and Achievement Program; and a supporter of the Weequahic High School and Chancellor Annex Father's Club. He was also a founding member of the Baristers of New Jersey, the Concerned Legal Associates, and the Garden State Bar. Other professional affiliations include membership in: the American Bar Association, the New Jersey State Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the Essex County Bar Association, the Essex County Municipal Court Judges Association, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Counsel, the Seton Hall Moot Court-Visiting Instructor, the Legal Advisory Committee of Montclair State College, the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Municipal Courts, the Advisory Board of the New Jersey Center for Law and Related Education, and the National Council for Judicial Planning.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and best wishes for the future to Judge Booker.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE PERNICK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as we on the Federal legislative level finish our work on the floor for this year, I want to pay tribute to Lawrence Pernick, an outstanding legislator on the local level for 27 years.

Until his untimely and sudden death on November 6, Larry Pernick embodied the best in public service. While the Oakland County Board was supposed to be an avocation, Larry Pernick viewed his service as a county commissioner to be a vital part of his role in life.

It was manifested in his hard work, his sense of camaraderie beyond party lines, and his sense of human about his work.

There was little publicity about his valuable public efforts, but that never bothered Larry Pernick. He valued the respect of his colleagues and the integrity of his labors more than the beam of publicity. Good work was its own reward, not the limelight.

So he will be sorely missed, by colleagues, also by his long-time friends, and most of all by his loved and loving family, his wife of 48 years, Anne, his children, and his grandchildren.

THE 61ST ANNIVERSARY OF MORNING
STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the congregation of the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church and its pastor, the Reverend Dr.

Charles E. Betts, Sr., for celebrating the 61st anniversary of the church.

Morning Star has provided spiritual guidance to thousands and has made a tremendous contribution to the community. I have been fortunate enough to visit Morning Star and to meet with Reverend Betts on many occasions, and I can attest to his dedication to children and to the community he serves. In a neighborhood which desperately needs people who care and who want honesty, fairness, and justice for those who live there, it is a true testament to Reverend Betts and to Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church that they have become the shining star of their community. Congratulations.

STUPAK & BERGMAN PC

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to a business development in Escanaba, a shore community in the 1st Congressional District of Michigan. In that city on December 13, my brother Frank Stupak and his long-time law partner, John Bergman, will dedicate their new business location, a new building on the waterfront in downtown Escanaba, next to the historic House of Ludington.

In December Frank will also mark his 25th year as an attorney, a quarter century of service to northern Michigan.

Frank began his legal career after graduating from the University of Toledo law school in 1972. He began with the firm of Hansley, Neiman, Peterson and Beauchamp PC, and later went into partnership with John Bergman.

Frank's first year of practice, which included prosecuting cases for the city of Escanaba, coincided with my first year as a law enforcement officer in Escanaba. I would arrest people and Frank would prosecute them. We were an unbeatable team.

Before I was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1988, I was a partner with Frank and John and worked out of their offices in Escanaba and nearby Menominee. Frank had been the oldest brother in our large family, and we always looked up to him. Now, as a law partner I got to see first-hand his professional commitment.

I've watched my brother consistently handle some of the most important cases in northern Michigan. To those who ask how he has managed to land such good legal work, his standard answer is, "because I've worked hard on every case for 25 years."

Mr. Speaker, today I wish the best for Frank; his wife Penny; his daughter Stefanie, a family services counselor and youth activities coordinator; and his son Trent, a student in pre-law at Michigan State University. I know that Frank hopes one day his son will follow him in service to northern Michigan. I also offer my congratulations to John, his wife Mary and his son John, a high school student. Good luck, too, to Martin Fittanti, a junior associate at the firm of Stupak & Bergman PC.

I'm proud to have been part of their firm, and I continue to feel pride when I hear the respect with which people regard the quality of service the firm provides. In fact, the quality of the representation of that firm has only been a benefit to my political aspiration.